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Applicant:

Yasuhiro KAJIHARA

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Thomas Sweeney Heard

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) WITH A STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

## Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 20, 2007

## Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These documents have been cited in a search report in a corresponding European application. One copy of each of the listed documents and a copy of the search report is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned

application, but prior to issuance of a final official action or a Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The undersigned also hereby states that the information contained in this information disclosure statement was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement.

The concise explanation of the relevance of the documents required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied by submission of a copy of the European Search Report (MPEP 609A(3)).

No explanation of the relevance of documents FB, FC and DA to DM is believed to be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 because the documents are in English.

Document FA is not in the English language. However, the publication includes an English language abstract. The concise explanation of the relevance of the document required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 is believed to be satisfied thereby. The undersigned notes that U.S. Patent No. 7,135,566 is a corresponding publication

of document FA.

No fee is required in connection with this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments:

PTO-1449

16 Documents

European Search Report